

Action For India Presents

SILICON VALLEY CHALLENGE TREK 2021

15th to 19th February



About **Action For India**

Action For India (AFI) is a platform to help scale high-potential social entrepreneurs. AFI connects social entrepreneurs with impact investors, mentors, technology resources, government contacts, and other relevant ecosystem partners.

AFI provides access to capital via our relationships with foundations and funding institutions. It also helps social entrepreneurs benefit from the diverse experience of our best-in-class mentors working across industries globally.

AFI helps maximize entrepreneurs' potential through high-impact technology support from Silicon Valley experts and also access to a cohesive network of the Indian diaspora. Launched in 2012, AFI has international chapters in Silicon Valley and in the UK.

AFI's vision is to identify and help scale at least 25 of such Social Enterprises to be Unicorns and in the process, potentially enhance the lives of 25 Million people



From **Management's Desk**



Dr Sam Pitroda
Chairman, AFI

A Note from our Honorary Chairman

Warm wishes to all the participants of the Silicon Valley Virtual Trek 2021, a valuable experience awarded to the best social entrepreneurs each year.

The role of India's social entrepreneurship sector is to apply knowledge and resources to provide the 400 million poor people of India with access to opportunities for growth. This is a difficult task, and can only be done if technology is utilized as one of the levers to tackle the problem, and used to scale rapidly. I have said earlier that the best brains in the world are busy in solving problems of the rich due to which issues of the poor do not get due attention. At present, as I interact with more and more social entrepreneurs, I see this changing, I feel that some of the brightest might be choosing to take up social entrepreneurship as a career and devoting their lives to solving the many problems faced by India's poor population.

The reason why I support and mentor AFI is that as an organization it does a few things, but does them well. It has done a commendable job with strengthening the social entrepreneurship ecosystem in different parts of India. The Silicon Valley Challenge Trek and the Silicon Valley Chapter are a way to ensure that there's a bridge built between the Indian social entrepreneurship ecosystem and the luminaries from the Valley.

From **Management's Desk**



Sanjay Kadaveru
Founder, AFI

A Note from our Founder

Dear All,

Welcome to the Silicon Valley Virtual Trek 2021, where our best social entrepreneurs engage with top leaders and experts from Silicon Valley for a highly stimulating and enriching opportunity that will accelerate their growth as entrepreneurs. Since our inception in 2012, our focus has been on how technology can power social innovation to achieve scale, and fulfil the highest potential of social entrepreneurs.

We believe that technology is a great leveler, and powerful lever, helping even small organizations with limited resources, to attain scale and dream big. Let this be the year that you as social entrepreneurs go forth, and make social entrepreneurship mainstream. The Silicon Valley Trek is one of the ways by which we want to be your key ally and enabler in your scaling journeys.

AFI 2.0: Reinventing Ourselves

With a desire to constantly evolve and adapt to changing times, AFI is now repositioning and launching a reinvigorated AFI 2.0, with a zeal to fulfil its new mission: 'Creating 25 Impact Unicorns by 2025'. AFI believes that Impact Unicorns have the potential to positively impact at least a million lives with sustainable revenues over a 5-year period. In this context, our mission is to identify and help scale at least 25 of such Social Enterprises to be Unicorns and in the process, potentially enhance the lives of 25 Million people.

We are also launching an array of exciting new services that is more impactful and inclusive. Know more about things we do:

- **Social Enterprise Advisory Services**
- **AFI i-TIC Foundation Social Entrepreneurship Accelerator (AISEA)**
- **Women Entrepreneurship Program**
- **Impact Investment Fund (3i Partners)**
- **Silicon Valley Expedition**
- **Annual Forum 2021**

About The Silicon Valley Challenge Trek

The Silicon Valley Challenge (SVC) is our annual business plan competition that selects 5 high-potential social enterprises from India for an immersive, experiential learning program held in Silicon Valley, California. Winners of SVC get to participate in a 2 week long, all-expense-paid trip to Silicon Valley to engage with leading technology companies, business incubators, investors and other like-minded businesses. The trek gives the fellows an opportunity to engage with Silicon Valley Leadership Circle including impact angel investors, technology leaders and foundations to build strong networks, learn entrepreneurial acumen and get insights from the successes of business leaders, and partner with mentors who can help in scaling these social enterprises through funding and mentoring support.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this year the Trek is being held virtually which will see the amalgamation of the SVC Fellows, industry leaders and mentors from the Indian diaspora from across the world.



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A2P Energy Solution

A2P Energy works to solve the crop burning problem in North India. A2P Energy's competitive edge is the use of technology to solve the crop residue burning problem in terms of collection and processing. A2P Energy's work has won many national and global awards, some of which are: winner of 'Global Maker Challenge', First Prize winner of Startup India's challenge, Winner of Climate LaunchPad "Best Solutions for Emerging Markets"

www.a2penergy.com



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Sukhmeet has over 16 years of experience in the areas of Bioenergy, Agriculture and Strategy.

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BookMyBai

Bookmybai.com is a tech-enabled livelihood platform which helps underprivileged women across India find reliable and high-paying jobs of a domestic worker in an empathetic household. They have already provided jobs to over 18000 women in India along with countries like UAE, UK, China, Singapore. They have received demand for over 600,000 workers.

www.bookmybai.com

“

Anupam Sinhal & Vickash Chowdhury, co-founders of Bookmybai come from a technology background and have over 25 years of cumulative experience in recruitment technology.

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SVC TREK SPEAKERS 2021



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Dr. Sam Pitroda,
Honorary Chairman

Dr. Sam Pitroda is an internationally respected telecom inventor, entrepreneur, development thinker, and policy maker who has spent 50 years in information and communications technology (ICT) and related global and national developments.

Credited with having laid the foundation for India's telecommunications and technology revolution of the 1980s, Mr. Pitroda has been a leading campaigner to help bridge the global digital divide. During his tenure as Advisor to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Mr. Pitroda led six technology

missions related to telecommunications, water, literacy, immunization, dairy production, and oil seeds.

Recently, Mr. Pitroda served as Advisor to the Prime Minister of India on Public Information Infrastructure and Innovation, with the rank of a Cabinet Minister. He served as the Chairman of the Smart Grid Task Force, as well as the committees to reform public broadcasting, modernize railways, deliver e-governance, and other developmental activities.

He is also a founding Commissioner of the United Nations Broadband Commission for Digital Development and Chairman of the International Telecommunication Union's m-Powering Development Board that looks to empower developing countries with the use of mobile technology.

M.R. (Madhavan) Rangaswami,
Founder, Indiaspora Forum

M.R. (Madhavan) Rangaswami is an Indian software executive, investor, entrepreneur, corporate eco-strategy expert, community builder and philanthropist. Recognized as a software business expert, he participated in the rapid expansion of the Silicon Valley software industry during his tenure as an executive at both large and small software companies. In 1997, he co-founded Sand Hill Group, one of the earliest "angel" investment firms, and in 2007, founded Corporate Eco Forum. M.R. is an advisor of Inception. M.R. is a board member of the Kaliash Satyarthi Children's Foundation. M.R. is the recipient of the US-China Educational Trust (US-CET) inaugural "Asians in America" award in 2016. M.R. is the recipient of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) "Influential Leaders" award in 2015.



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AGK Karunakaran,
President, TiE Silicon Valley

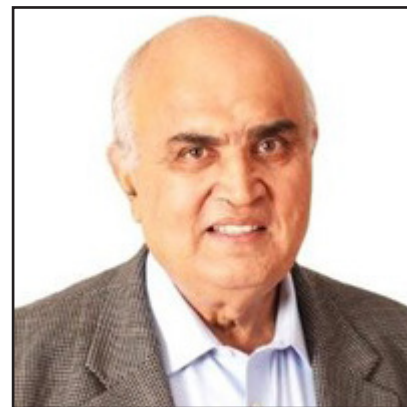
AGK has 25 years experience in General Management, Engineering and Marketing for the computing, semiconductor and embedded markets. AGK was the founding President and CEO of GDA Technologies Inc., a leading Intellectual Property licensing and electronics design services Company. GDA was purchased by L & T Infotech, India in March 2007. At GDA, he was responsible for leadership development, growth strategy, prudent cash management and worked with leading Semiconductor

companies to commercialize the silicon intellectual property blocks. Under his leadership GDA made it to the INC 500 list, Si100 lists, grew to 400 employees, delivered on significant product development engagements with leading systems and semiconductor companies and became a leading supplier of High speed Serial I/O Semiconductor Intellectual blocks. He has deep experience in bootstrapping companies and in strategic M&A transactions, having consummated deals for GDA with L&T Infotech and Rambus.

Kanwal Rekhi,

Co-Founder, TiE | MD, Inventus Capital Partners

Kanwal Singh Rekhi is an Indian-American businessperson. He is credited as the first Indian-American Founder and CEO to take a venture-backed company public on the NASDAQ. Rekhi had worked as an engineer, systems analyst, and manager before venturing into entrepreneurship. At the age of 36, he moved to San Jose, California and co-founded Excelan in 1982, a manufacturer of smart Ethernet, and was named president and CEO in 1985. The company went public on the NASDAQ in 1987, and merged with Novell in 1989. Kanwal remained at Novell as an executive vice-president and the chief technology officer of the company, later joining the board of directors. Kanwal retired from Novell in 1995. After leaving Novell, Kanwal also served as the CEO at CyberMedia from January 1998 until its merger with Network Associates (now McAfee) in September 1998.



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Raju Reddy,

Entrepreneur, Angel investor

Raju Reddy is the founder and former CEO of Sierra Atlantic, a company that grew to be a best-in-class global services company over a period of 17 years before being acquired by Hitachi. Previously, Raju spent 10 years at Intel. He enjoys working with young entrepreneurs and mentoring to build great global companies. Raju currently serves on the board of Grey Orange, Belong and Seclere, and previously on RedBus (acquired by Naspers), Espresso Logic (now CA) and Cognovision (now Intel). Raju is currently a Board

member of RAND Corp Center for Asia Pacific Policy and EnActe Arts. He previously served as the Chairman of BITSAA Intl., the alumni body of BITS Pilani. Raju is the Co-founder of Kakatiya Sandbox, an initiative in rural Telangana (India) building an ecosystem for long-term, positive social impact. He is an active TiE Silicon Valley charter member and served as Convener for TiEcon 2016.

Raju holds an M.Sc. in Computer Science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from Birla Institute of Technology and Science in India.

Cole Wilbur,

Trustee & Past President, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Cole Wilbur is a trustee emeritus and former president of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation; CEO for 23 years. He is the previous president of The California Wellness Foundation. Cole was previously executive director and CEO of the Sierra Club Foundation, international banker at First Interstate Bank, and vice president and managing director and sales representative at a computer service bureau. He serves or has served on numerous boards including Colorado College, the Packard Foundation, Philanthropic Ventures Foundation, Institute for Global Ethics, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, and Stanford Theatre Foundation. He served as interim president and CEO of The Council on Foundations and received the Grant Maker of the Year Award in 1999; co-author of "The Complete Guide to Grantmaking Basics," 2008 and "Giving With Confidence." He is married to Grace Wilbur and has two daughters and three granddaughters.



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Asha Jadeja,

Founder, Investor, Influencer, Philanthropist at Motwani Jadeja Foundation

Asha Jadeja is a Silicon Valley-based venture capitalist who has invested in over 200 technology startups in the Bay Area. As an entrepreneur herself, her philanthropic work has championed “exponential growth” designed to ignite young entrepreneurs to become disruptive change makers. All of Asha’s venture and philanthropic initiatives in India have been designed to help the nation break free of this cycle of poverty. Asha founded Motwani Jadeja Family

Foundation to develop a network of entrepreneurs in South Asia trained to think and drive exponential change. The foundation supports US – India partnership for disruptive entrepreneurship, gender equality, and inclusive development. A firm believer in self-sustaining social movements supported by local communities, Asha created and enabled Maker Fest – a grassroots social movement that is now prolific in Africa, India and more recently in Brazil. She created India’s first network of dozens of Fablabs designed to spark a just in time manufacturing environment in India. With help from Prof Sugata Mitra, Asha set up India’s first self supported School in the Cloud in Ahmedabad. This has now grown to over 60 locally managed and sustained “schools in the cloud” within South Asia. Asha is a prolific thought leader and speaker at various global events.

Dr. Srinivas Akkaraju,

Managing General Partner, Samsara BioCapital

Dr. Srinivas Akkaraju is the Founder and Managing General Partner at Samsara BioCapital. Previously, from April 2013 to February 2016, he served as a General Partner of Sofinnova Ventures. From January 2009 until April 2013, he served as Managing Director of New Leaf Venture Partners. Previously, he served as a Managing Director at Panorama Capital, LLC, a private equity firm. Prior to co-founding Panorama Capital, Dr. Akkaraju was with J.P. Morgan Partners, which he joined in 2001 and of which he became a Partner in 2005. From October 1998 to April 2001, he was in Business and Corporate Development at Genentech, Inc. (now a wholly owned member of The Roche Group), a biotechnology company, most recently as Senior Manager.



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Radhika Malpani,

Founder, Google Images

Radhika has started and been responsible for several critical products at Google. Starting with leading the Ads team in 2000, Radhika went on to work on core websearch, and then founded Google Images, growing it to over 1B queries/day. She then went on to build Google Travel Search to help users with their travel planning needs. An alumnus of UC, Berkeley, Radhika worked at Google since 2000 and before that at some leading technology firms like Hewlett Packard Labs and Siemens.

Radhika has always been interested in the application of technology for social impact, (especially for global health, education and conservation), and recently left Google to focus full-time on helping mission oriented startups scale. She sits on the boards of Nexleaf Analytics, Simprints, and Educate!, advises several startup CEOs including Dost Education, TalkingPoints, Skyven Technologies, Frances Solar, is a technical advisor to ClIFF, a mentor with Unreasonable Group, and works closely with GAVI and Google.org

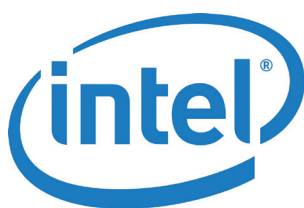
Kumar Ganapathy,

Co-Founder and Partner, 3iPartners

Kumar Ganapathy, Ph.D., Chief Business Officer and Co-Founder of Virident Systems, is a recognized leader in DSP, wireless and computing systems architecture. Dr. Ganapathy has years of leadership experience as an operating executive and entrepreneur in the high technology field. Prior to founding Virident in 2006, Dr. Ganapathy was an Executive in Residence (EIR) at Artiman Ventures. Before that, he was the Chief Technical Officer and co-founder of VxTel, developer of VoIP DSP processors and subsystems, which was acquired by Intel in 2001. At Intel, Dr. Ganapathy was Director of Architecture and Engineering in Ultrawideband Networking Operation (UWB) and Edge Access Division (VoIP, 3G BTS) as well as in the CTO Office of the Intel Communication Group. Before co-founding VxTel, Dr. Ganapathy was Principal Engineer and Fellow of Conexant and Rockwell Semiconductor leading the development of 56-kbit modems and GSM phones.



Previous Partners



Previous **SVC TREK FELLOWS**



Akanksha Hazari

Founder And CEO, m.Paani



Bikrant Tiwary

Co-Founder & Director, Grow-Trees



Leo Mavely

Founder & CEO, Axio Biosolutions



Pavin Pankajan

Trustee, Aquasafi Rural Development Foundation



Sombodhi Ghosh

Co-founder and Director, Aakar Innovations



Apurva Bhandari

Founder, SankalpTaru Foundation



Wilma Rodrigues

Founder & CEO, Saahas Waste Management



Prabhat Kumar

Co-Founder, MicroX Foundation



Minhaj Chowdhury

Co-Founder and CEO, Drinkwell



Dr. Arjun Sachidanand

Managing Director, SAS Healthcare

Previous **SVC TREK FELLOWS**



Damini Mahajan
Founder, WeMakeScholars



Abhay Shendye
Founder & Director, Swasti Agro & Bioproducts Pvt Ltd



Saransh Vaswani
Director, Saajha



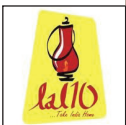
Avin Agarwal
Chief Executive Officer, Uber Diagnostics



Shashank Kumar
Co- Founder & CEO, DeHaat



Sandith Thandasherry
Founder & CEO, NavAlt Solar & Electric Boats Pvt Ltd



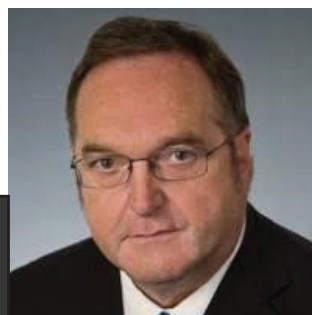
Maneet Gohil
Co-founder and CEO, Lal10



Nitin Goel
Founder, Inficold



Amruth B R
CEO, GuruG



Kevin Houston
Owner & co- founder, Carbon Masters



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